



**CTA/COL / RUFORUM Training Course:
Web 2.0 Tools for Research Support and Networking in Africa
Kampala, Uganda, 08 – 12 September 2008**

Background

Partnerships are one of the main means through which The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and its regional and international partners like Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), The Netherlands, and Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada, seek to achieve concrete results. The collaborative partnerships are a common storefront for individuals throughout academic and research institutions to build relationships in the pursuit of conducting research, taking advantage of commercialization opportunities and sponsored funding. The partnership empowers individuals and institutions to use and share expertise and resources existing in remote locations. Using open source tools and simple data standards and other web-based resources, collaborative partnership can reach new frontiers. A paradigm shift to virtual collaboration can speed the transfer of knowledge. Expertise, resources, and research information can be organized at the individual, University, University System, National and Regional levels as well as by wider geographic regions.

The need to strengthen publication and communication capabilities of agricultural researchers has become a priority for universities and agricultural research institutions. Recent studies of the publication performance of agricultural research scientists in ACP countries have revealed a variety of weaknesses in scientists' abilities and in the opportunities available to publish research work. Inadequate competence in essential ICT skills is often identified as one of the constraints to effective collaboration and sharing of agricultural research results.

CTA is collaborating with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and the Regional Universities Forum (RUFORUM) to organise this course for scientists in RUFORUM member institutions.

COL launched WikiEducator in 2006 and its use is growing rapidly with the number of registered users passing the 1500 mark and the number of visits per month now exceeding 80,000. COL, using WikiEducator has built the capacity of rural communities, educators and extension officials to create educational content collaboratively. WikiEducator also facilitates planning conferences and other events from remote locations.

Workshop Objectives

The general objective is to equip scientists in universities and agricultural research institutions with the requisite tools to conduct collaborative content development in a variety of scenarios. The aim is to improve educational content creation, research efficiency and the effective flow of agricultural information among researchers within and between academic and research institutions.

The specific objectives of the workshop are to:

1. Build capacity in the use of web 2.0 tools in order to achieve the following:
 - a. speed the movement of new ideas between individuals, within institutions and among institutions;
 - b. enable institutions and individuals to know what expertise and resources exist and their geographic proximity to one another;
 - c. allow individuals to find each other, form partnerships and implement research programmes and projects collectively.
2. Form institutional partnerships for identified collaborative research areas and identified project proposal writing;
3. Establish a network whose objective would be the development of open educational resources in the area of agricultural training and research; and
4. Establish follow up and support activities for Participatory Action Planning.

Workshop Outcomes

By the end of the workshop, the following outputs shall

1. An online network of developers of open educational resources for agricultural training and research in WikiEducator/Floss4Edu, basecamp, mailing list
2. At least 2 online collaborative projects established (e.g. joint publications, proposal development, research, joint curriculum and open educational resources)
3. Each institution holds at least 2 follow up workshops in the use of web 2.0 tools

Facilitators

Dr Washington Ochola

Mr James Wire

Mr Nicholas Kimolo

Ms Nodumo Dhlamini

Workshop Programme

| DAY ONE | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 8:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome, Introductions (<i>30 minutes</i>) - Opening Remarks – RUFORUM - Prof E. Adipala |
| 9:00 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants' Expectations (<i>10 Minutes</i>) - Workshop Objectives/Outcomes (<i>5 minutes</i>) - Participant Action Planning Approach – PAPA - <i>The Web Option</i> (<i>15 minutes</i>) |
| 9:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre-training Assessment (<i>15 minutes</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Individual TNA mini-survey</i> |
| 9:45 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Information/Knowledge Sharing/Communication – pros and cons (<i>30 minutes</i>) |
| 10:15 AM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 10:45 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on “What are Web 2.0 Technologies and How they can be used in Learning” (<i>20 minutes</i>) - Introduction to Web 2.0 Tools for Education and Collaborative Research: An Introduction, Web 2.0 Tools including Googledocs, SharePoint, Unyte and wikis and in particular WikiEducator - Discussion (<i>15 minutes</i>) - Practicals on tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Google Docs o Practical Exercise on Blogs |
| 1:00 PM | | LUNCH |
| 2:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practicals (<i>105 minutes</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Practical Exercise on Facebook & Social Bookmarking</i> o <i>Practical Exercise on Wikis</i> |
| 3:45 PM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 4:00 PM | | (<i>60 minutes</i>) Plenary Discussions - Review of Initial Sessions' Outcomes |
| 5:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open Participatory Evaluation of the Day's Activities/Outcomes (<i>10 minutes</i>) - Day's Closing remarks (<i>5 minutes</i>) |

| DAY TWO | | |
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| 8:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of Day I Activities (Participant) (<i>15 minutes</i>) - Opening Remarks & Objectives for the Day (<i>15 minutes</i>) |
| 9:00 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principles, Practices of Open Access Education/Research Resources: Opportunities and Challenges (<i>15 minutes</i>) - Open Discussion (<i>15 minutes</i>) |
| 9:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group Work/Exercise (<i>45 minutes</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Word Processing/Spreadsheets/ Presentations via Open Office |
| 10:15 AM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 10:45 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to WikiEducator, Floss4Edu and Sucapri (<i>15 minutes</i>) - Discussion (<i>10 minutes</i>) |
| | | Individual Exercises (<i>110 minutes</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Creating Accounts in WikiEducator o Demonstration of the features of WikiEducator o Plenary Discussion |
| 1:00 PM | | LUNCH BREAK |
| 2:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practicals (<i>120 minutes</i>) - Group Exercise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Editing Basics and formatting content o Creating New Pages and Links o Working with Images and other Media |
| 3:45 PM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 4:00 PM | | - Collaborative Content Development Features |
| 5:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of the Day's Activities/Outcomes (<i>10 minutes</i>) - Day's Closing remarks (<i>5 minutes</i>) |

| DAY THREE | | |
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| 8:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of Day 2 Activities (Participant) (<u>20 minutes</u>) - Opening Remarks & Objectives for the Day (<u>10 minutes</u>) |
| 9:00 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copyright issues and the creative commons Presentation by (<u>15 minutes</u>) - Presentation of Individual/Group/Institutional Projects for implementation with Web 2.0 (<u>60 minutes</u>) |
| 10:15 AM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 10:45 AM | | 75 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborative Research: Making it Work through Web 2.0 Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Designing projects/proposals o Implementing Research o Monitoring Research o Publishing and Communicating Research o Creating Research Networks - Joint Presentation – 20 minutes - Discussions - 40 minutes |
| 1:00 PM | | LUNCH BREAK |
| 2:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group Work (<u>105 minutes</u>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Free Content development) |
| 3:45 PM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 4:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group Work (<u>60 minutes</u>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Free Content development) |
| 5:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of the Day's Activities/Outcomes (W.O) (<u>10 minutes</u>) - Day's Closing remarks (N.D) (<u>5 minutes</u>) |

| DAY FOUR | | |
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| 8:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of Day 3 Activities (Participant) (<u>20 minutes</u>) - Opening Remarks & Objectives for the Day (N.D) (<u>10 minutes</u>) |
| 9:00 AM | | <u>(75 minutes)</u> Networking for the development of funding proposal: WikiEducator based networking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Proposal development o Proposal Peer Review |
| 9:30 AM | | Group Work Continues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Networking for Proposal Development</i> o <i>Plenary Presentations and Discussions</i> |
| 10:15 AM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 10:45 AM | | Group Work Continues (<u>135 minutes</u>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Networking for Proposal Development</i> o <i>Plenary Presentations and Discussions</i> |
| 1:00 PM | | LUNCH BREAK |
| 2:00 PM | | <u>(105 minutes)</u> <i>Networking for Proposal Development – Practicals</i> |
| 3:45 PM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 4:00 PM | | Review of proposals (<u>60 minutes</u>) |
| 5:00 PM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of the Day's Activities/Outcomes (<u>10 minutes</u>) - Day's Closing remarks (<u>5 minutes</u>) |

| DAY FIVE | | |
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| 8:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of Day 4 Activities Participant (<u>20 minutes</u>) - Opening Remarks & Objectives for the Day (<u>10 minutes</u>) |
| 9:00 AM | | Formation of Output Groups (<u>15 minutes</u>) |
| 9:30 AM | | Scoping for Joint Wiki/Blogging/WikiEducator Project/Collaborative Research Groups (<u>45 minutes</u>) |
| 10:15 AM | | HEALTH BREAK |
| 10:30 AM | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Way Forward (<u>110 minutes</u>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Individual Action Plans (WikiEducator – based PAPA) for Web Tools o Institutional and Regional Plan of Action - Evaluation of the Workshop Activities/Outcomes (<u>30 minutes</u>) - Workshop Closing remarks (RUFORUM) (<u>10 minutes</u>) |
| 1:00 PM | | LUNCH |
| | | FREE AFTERNOON |
| 7:00 PM | | DINNER |